



Ellerbe Telephone Communications

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VIA ECFS

March 5, 2014

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554
Attn: Wireline Competition Bureau

**Re: WC Docket No. 10-90
Rural Broadband Experiment Expression of Interest for Price Cap Areas
ETCOM, LLC**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

ETCOM, LLC (ETCOM) hereby expresses interest in participating in the Commission's rural broadband experiments to provide robust, scalable high-speed broadband to unserved high-cost areas with additional Connect America funding.¹ ETCOM is an ILEC affiliate of Ellerbe Telephone Company and currently provides Wireless Broadband Internet in rural areas of North Carolina, and proposes deployment as follows.

Proposed Service Area

State	County	County Name	Tract ID	Tract Number	# of Locations
NC	37123	Montgomery	37123960100	9601-00	127
NC	37123	Montgomery	37123960200	9602-00	120
NC	37123	Montgomery	37123960300	9603-00	151
NC	37123	Montgomery	37123960401	9604-01	23
NC	37123	Montgomery	37123960402	9604-02	133
NC	37123	Montgomery	37123960500	9605-00	230
				Total Locations	784

The experiment will provide broadband service to 784 eligible high-cost locations in unserved high-cost Census Blocks within these Census Tracts.

¹ See *Technology Transitions et al.*, GN Docket No. 13-5 et al., Order, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Report and Order, Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Proposal for Ongoing Data Initiative, FCC 14-5 (rel. Jan. 31, 2014).

Proposed Services

Voice and broadband services with broadband transmission speeds of 6 Mbps downstream / 1 Mbps upstream provided over fixed-wireless broadband technology.

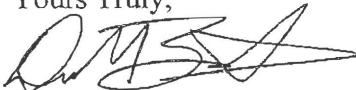
Funding

ETCOM estimates construction costs to be a total of \$500,000.00 based on knowledge of the area. The costs will be refined if and when a formal proposal is submitted. ETCOM requests \$500,000.00 in funding from Connect America Funds in a one-time funding and will fund the remaining capital and ongoing expenses to operate the system from customer revenue.

ETCOM expects service within the unserved high-cost Census Blocks to be offered within eight (8) months after construction starts.

ETCOM appreciates the opportunity to provide this non-binding expression of interest. Please contact the undersigned with any questions.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DMB', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dan M. Bennett

Manager

ETCOM, LLC